GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1461
ANSWERED ON:10.03.2008
KILLING OF PEOPLE IN TEST RANGES
Singh Shri Rakesh

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been an increase in the incidents of death of local people in the bomb blasts carried out in the testing ranges by the army;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government will take cognizance of such incidents in Jabalpur; and

(d) whether the Government proposes to change the locations of these testing range in view of increasing density of population nearby?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY)

(a) There has been one case of death, that of Shri Raghu Gotia from Village Bichua under jurisdiction of Police Station Panagarh, Jabalpur on June 27, 2007 as reported by Senior Quality Assurance Establishment (Armament) {SQAE(A)} & Long Proof Range (LPR), Khamaria, Jabalpur.

(b) The accident occurred due to the unauthorized entry of the individual into the notified/prohibited/dangerous range during firing.

(c) The concerned Departments are being kept in the picture.

(d) There is no such proposal before the Government.